

Carter, Pruett
(Artist)

Drawer 12a

NY 2009 035.02275


Artists - C

Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Pruett Carter

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
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Pruett Alexander Carter

Check <http://www.askart.com/AskART/artists/biography.aspx?searchtype=BIO&artist=2554> on Friday for bio.

b. 1891 in Lexington, MO

d. 1955 in Studio City, CA; suicide age 64; shot self after shooting wife Theresa (54) and son Deal (35); no note
Lived/worked in CA

Known primarily as women's mag illustrator; worked in watercolor and oil; painterly illustration style; began career 1918; remained popular 1920s-1950s—able to evolve style to needs of changing magazine market.

Was art director at *Good Housekeeping* and *Atlanta Journal*; illustrated for *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Woman's Home Companion*, *McCall's*, *American Magazine*. Taught at Grand Central School of Art in NY and Chouinard Art Institute in LA.

Previous Lincoln-related work:

For article "Lincoln" in *Ladies' Home Journal* 1926; illustration of Lincoln in row boat w/ secretary(?), pensive, wants war to end

For poem "Nancy Hanks's Lullaby" in *LHJ* Feb. 1928; illustration of Hanks at hearth w/ infant

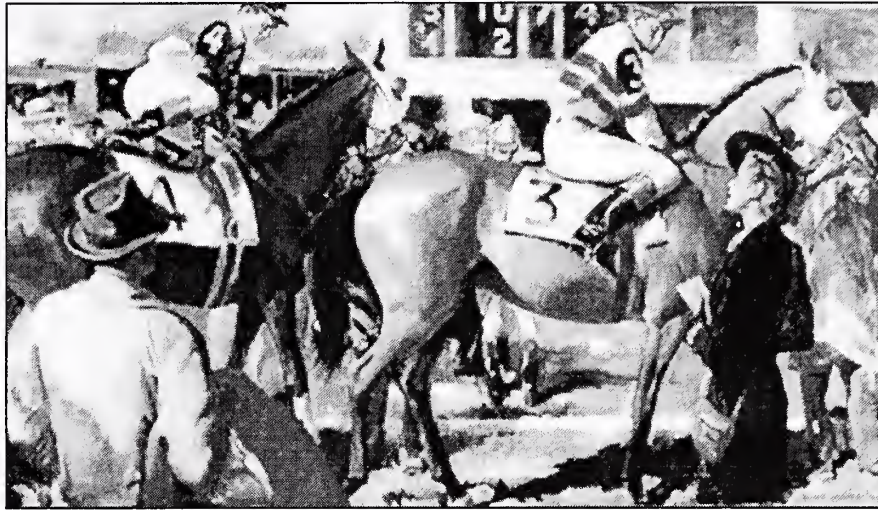
Paintings/illustrations focus on intellect, emotion, character—reflected focus of his clients (magazines/readers as well as clients like Lincoln Life)

Quote (1948): "the illustrator may be likened to the director of a motion picture...He must live the part of each actor. He must do the scenery, design the costumes, and handle the lighting effects."

Items using image:

LNL pen blotter "Lincoln...The Friend" Meaning both AL in painting and LNL to customers.

PRUETT CARTER



The paintings of **PRUETT CARTER (1891-1955)** rarely concentrated on the mechanics of a particular moment of action. Rather, his compositions were concerned with intellect and emotion which in turn were the focus for the clients for whom Carter did his best work. His illustrations for *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Woman's Home Companion*, *McCall's* and *American Magazine* were less concerned with plot than with character.

From Carter's start as an illustrator in 1918 until his death, he was one of the few established illustrators who was capable of smooth transitions in the tumultuous women's magazine market. Carter possessed an advantage over his competitors because of his intimate knowledge of the magazine business. In his years as art director with *Good Housekeeping* and the *Atlanta Journal*, he absorbed the requirements of illustrating from the publisher's vantage point, and he had taught illustration at Grand Central School of Art in New York as well as the Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles. Continually exposing himself to upcoming talent and explaining the finer points of his own technique, he remained quick on his feet, able to change his style and to recognize, even foresee, changes in his markets.

His early illustration work was similar in style to Walter Biggs' impressionistic palette. By the 1950s, however, most clients wanted a less painterly style, and were concerned more with page design and decoration than fine easel painting. Sensitive to this shift, Carter's style and thinking constantly evolved. In 1948, Carter wrote: "The illustrator's first function is a problem of composition, of pattern, of design - including the rich contrast of the illustration itself with the type matter and headlines of the story."

"Actually," he continued, "the illustrator may be likened to the director of a motion picture...He must live the part of each actor. He must do the scenery, design the costumes, and handle the lighting effects." These words not only reflect his studio's Los Angeles location; they indicate an artist with a real grasp of the contemporary. By the Fifties, Carter, an old hand in the business, convincingly remained a very modern illustrator. - Frederic B. Taraba

[story illustration for *American Magazine*, 1939, oil on canvas 28 x 50";
This painting was auctioned May 4, 1996; it sold for \$10,000.]

come to greatness only because greatness lay in the plain path of duty.

There is the tiny hall, a small dining room where, as soon as the children learned to hold a knife and fork, they sat down to lunch with their parents. Before these table accomplishments were achieved, they would entertain "Mamma" and "Papa" at the grown-up breakfast in an interlude between their own earlier breakfast and their lessons with the village schoolmaster.

"Papa's" own room remains on the ground floor, off the hall—half study, half sitting room, where, when the fatigues and duties of the morning were over, lunch past, tea taken, and the children heading for bed, he sat with his wife, who usually knitted, to talk over the things of the day.

The same workmanlike armchairs remain in the study, just one or two; and the relics of the chase are there on the wall; for the lord of this cottage had always an antipathy to change—to having his "stuff" moved or disturbed. Here is a piece of furniture, there a picture on the wall treasured from days when as Prince George he stayed with his tutors and brother, the Duke of Clarence, at his father's overflow cottage.

Upstairs, sacred from profane eyes, among the precious "stuff" which belongs to the lady of the cottage, is a little china ornament, bought probably at a fair, which "Cousin Georgie" bought her when she lived at White Lodge and he at Marlborough House. It presents a small boy and a small girl in the attitude of kissing—such an eloquent little emblem of devotion, somehow part and parcel of this "incredibly devoted" married life which began at York Cottage with the long and arduous apprenticeship for the throne of England which lasted nearly fifteen years.

Here began the married life of King George and Queen Mary. Here began that "extraordinary delight in each other" which, if it were possible, has strengthened with the years.

No woman more completely immersed herself in the needs and the welfare of the man she had married than did Queen Mary, nor with a greater dignity. There was no compromise in this immolation, no shifting of responsibilities with the shifting of power. First and always she was his wife; by his side in anxiety and despondency, consoling him, greatly ambitious for him; with mind, heart and soul ready for his service at any moment. She shirked nothing. As in public, so in private, she was proud to be always in the shadow of the man she had chosen to serve.

IT WAS the simple, literal truth that King George spoke in his first public speech after his accession to the throne:





"Lincoln," Ladies Home Journal
1926

*"The war is just about over," Mr. Lincoln said. "For four years
they have been at this thing. I want them to end it!"*

PAINTING BY TRUETT CARTER

people's good."

And again, more privately, when he spoke in the servants' hall of Buckingham Palace thanking the servants for their gift on the anniversary of Their Majesties' Silver Wedding, and reminding them of his "beloved wife"—all that he and they owed to her. Only one or two of that company can remember the words of that impromptu speech, for it is now but an enduring memory for them of the King's simple sincerity, and of the tears it brought to Queen Mary's eyes.

The honeymoon over at York Cottage, they settled in the profuse official duties which came to them as the future King and Queen of England. The Duke of York and Cornwall and his wife had uncommonly little leisure. Every year brought the arduousness of a season in London to be sustained. In London they lived in official quarters forming part of St. James's Palace, and named York House with their residence there. Later, when they were Prince and Princess of Wales, the London home was changed to Marlborough

House. Their presence was commanded at every state function and court gathering; the official functions they were called upon to perform, necessitating their presence in some part of the British Isles far from Sandringham, are too numerous to be recalled.

It is at Sandringham that one is admitted most liberally to the private life of Queen Mary, not only inside the Cottage but outside on the estates where Queen Mary is simply the "Squire's wife"—a position in which she seems much to expand.

Her rare humor seems to find rein here; so, too, her great power of mimicry, which now and then she exerts for the delight of some select audience, and not infrequently to "work off" the pomposity of some bore, or to lend the redeeming

The most recent studio portrait of Her Majesty, the Queen.

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touch to some fatuous official who may be agitating the villagers.

It is not difficult, at Sandringham, to track the working of her simple humanity. It is a humanity as unegotistical as is her generosity, and as full as it is spontaneous.

There is a servant girl in distress—one of her own household, as a matter of fact.

"Poor, poor girl!"

There is no prying, no cross-examination; just pity and a tremendous desire to help.

All that matters to the royal mistress is the girl's extremity. She must have decent privacy; she must have assurance; as far as possible, peace of mind. The hand of the mistress is never once seen; yet for the girl it achieves a clean, peaceful safety. So much for the present.

It will not be easy for the girl to reënter service; to attempt to return means only further exposure. It then transpires that the girl has always inclined to nursing. Why should she not be a district nurse? There, surely, will be scope for the compassion for others that her own experience must have brought her. And she will surely be happy now, doing what she has always wanted to do.

SO REASONS the mistress. More, by her own private effort she makes it possible for the girl to train as a nurse; and somewhere in the British Empire is an excellent district nurse who has reason to be grateful to Queen Mary. So unostentatious is the "Squire's wife." Poor Mrs. X, she hears from the housekeeper, is dying of a particularly dread disease. It must be lonely for her lying there all day; the villagers, naturally enough, don't care to catch it. She has no visitors.

And the conversation turns again to dusting. Returning from some business in Sandringham that morning, Queen Mary stops at the cottage and goes straight up to the bedroom of the woman, her arms loaded with flowers she has herself picked.

North Front, Windsor Castle.

(Continued on p. 2)

February 1900



*Nancy Hanks's Lullaby: By Anne Higginson Spicer
Illustrated by Pruett Carter*

VISITING THE WOUNDED - - CARTER

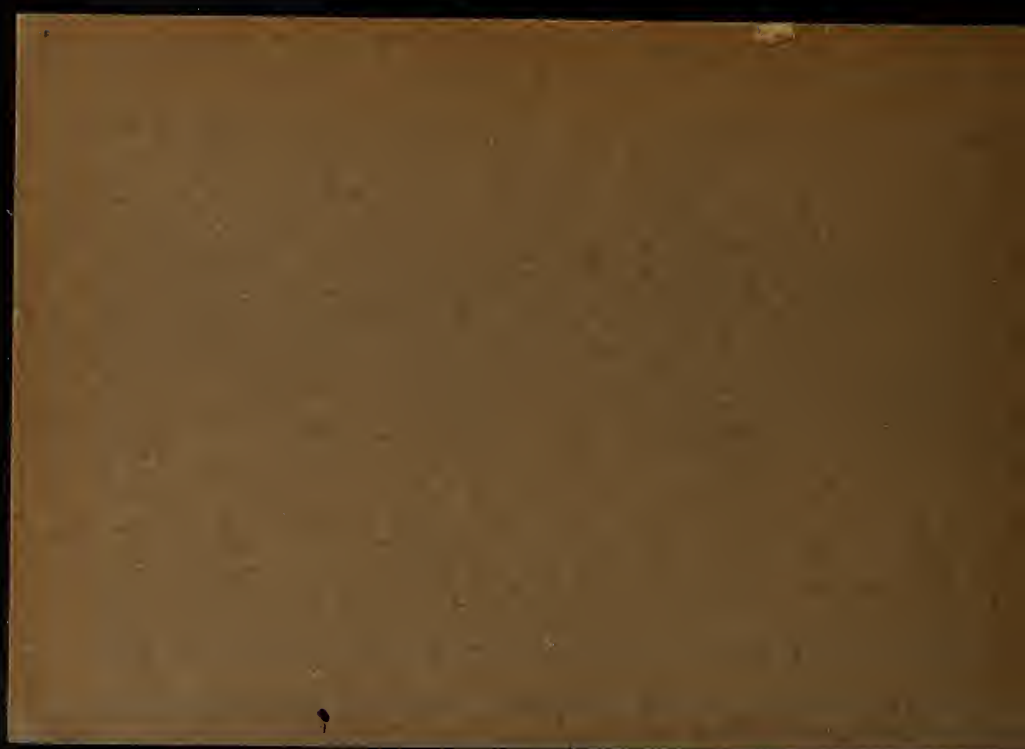
Abraham Lincoln was a frequent visitor at the Washington Hospitals during the entire period of the Civil War. In extending his words of comfort and sympathy, he was as gracious to soldiers who had been injured in a grey uniform as he was to those brought from the field clothed in blue.

Pruett Carter has visualized Lincoln in the Hospital "visiting the wounded" and given us a more appreciative understanding of "Greatheart" as Lincoln was often called.

LINCOLN VISITING THE WOUNDED.

BY PRUETT CARTER

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THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.*





LINCOLN VISITING THE WOUNDED *by Pratt Carter*

**WE NEVER SHALL BE NIGGARD
OF GRATITUDE AND BENEFACTION TO OUR SOLDIERS
WHO HAVE ENDURED TOIL, PRIVATIONS AND WOUNDS
THAT THE NATION MAY LIVE.**

August 10, 1863,

Abraham Lincoln

☆
Keep
America
American
☆

The
**CLEVELAND
KIWANIAN**

★ CLEVELAND, OHIO ★



The
Second
Club
in
Kiwanis
International
★
1915

Abraham Lincoln

How do you think of him? As a boy in a Kentucky log cabin? As an honest clerk in an Indiana country store? As an Illinois legislator? As an outstanding trial lawyer? As the worthy opponent of Stephen A. Douglas in the now famous series of debates on the slavery question? As the Civil War President? As the great emancipator? As the author of the Gettysburg address? As the writer of the sympathetic letter to Widow Bixby?

On THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1944, at 12:00 Noon, as we gather in the BALLROOM OF HOTEL CLEVELAND in honor of that great American, two days before the one hundred thirty-fifth anniversary of his birth, CLYDE F. VARNER, Head of the History Department of John Marshall High School will tell us

"WHY HE BELONGS TO THE AGES"

We are fortunate indeed to have secured for our Lincoln Day program a man who is not only a life-long student of Lincolniana but also an able and entertaining speaker.

See you Thursday.

THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
"Bob" Kimmel, *Chairman*

14009 Parkdale Ave

*Cleveland
Ohio*

THE CLEVELAND KIWANIAN

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OFFICE: Room 78, Parlor Floor
Hotel Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio
Prospect 7730

Ruth J. Loudon, Assistant Secretary

Vol. 4 Feb. 10, 1944 No. 6

"Engaged as I am in a great war, I fear it will be difficult for the world to understand how fully I appreciate the principles of peace." Abraham Lincoln.

William A. Stinchcomb has resigned as director of the Cuyahoga County Council for Civilian Defense and will return as director of the Metropolitan Park Board, but will act as consulting director for the Council. Kiwanian Harry L. Miller, who has been assistant director in charge of protective services for more than a year, will succeed Stinchcomb as director. Mayor Frank J. Lausche commended Bill Stinchcomb for his outstanding contribution of leadership and organization ability and accepted his resignation with sincere regret only after recognizing the Park Board's first claim on his services.

SMALLER WAR PLANTS CORPORATION

will exhibit approximately 45,000 enemy and non-enemy patents and patent applications, now controlled by the office of the Alien Property Custodian, in the East Wing, Bank Lobby Floor, Union Commerce Building, daily 8:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M., February 14th to 17th, inclusive.

Inventions affect your products and the way you produce them. This may be your opportunity to make use of some of these inventions in some of your present or future products. Technical men will be in attendance to answer questions.

SOMETHING'S COOKING!

A few Kiwanis couples gathered at President Charlie Stewart's home one evening recently and your reporter has a hunch that some form of evening entertainment with our ladies is in the wind.

Saturday evening following St. Patrick's Day might be a good time—what do you think?

W. A. (Doc) Collinson is helping to solve the problem of cigarette lighters for the boys of the armed forces. He has been collecting, repairing and putting them into working condition and sends them to the Marines in the South Pacific. If you have an old lighter that you don't need or one not in working condition, bring it to the Club. Doc will be glad to repair it and send it along with those he is getting almost daily from his patients. This is a contribution to the comfort of the boys that is very much appreciated by them, judging from their favorable comments. No matter how many lighters are turned in, Doc Collinson will see that they are put in working order, extra parts supplied and sent on to the boys abroad. . . Clarence Dray has been confined to his home for the past week by illness. . . Dr. Charles Adelstein was recently installed as head of Alpha Omega Dental Fraternity. . . Harry Coopland, former member of our Club and now of St. Louis and a past president of that Club, was the speaker at the Cleveland Lions Club on February 3rd. Harry is known as St. Louis Ambassador of Good Will and is a nationally known lecturer and humorist. . . Jim Gentilly says he is "busy—never so busy," but he keeps a consistent Kiwanis attendance. Take note, some of you fellows who claim you are too busy to attend.

ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES MEETING

Roy Packard and Ken Davidson represented the Kiwanis Club at the annual meeting of the Associated Industries of Cleveland held in the Rainbow Room of Hotel Carter on February 2nd. Approximately a thousand were in attendance. The Associated Industries is a group of Cleveland manufacturers covering a wide cross-section of the city's industrial life.

The principal speaker was Mr. Frederick Crawford, President of the Thompson Products Company and former President of the American Association of Manufacturers. He gave a very fine address on the future of free enterprise in America which Roy said was the best he had ever heard.

ATTENDANCE DONATIONS February 3, 1944

Ted Branch	6 Jars Cold Cream
Vic Burdick	Silver Key Ring
	Cuff Links
Ed Miller	6 Tickets to
	Hippodrome Theatre

THE CLEVELAND KIWANIAN

CONTACT

is a two-color four-page news summary designed especially for men in the service. It is issued monthly by *Kiwanis International* and every Club receives copies equivalent to the number of its members in service. The center spread is filled with timely *Kiwanis* news. The front and back pages are left blank for Club members' messages. If you would like to send one of these to a service member from our Club, ask **Ruth** for a copy.

John Gund says We're Flying High for "Big Game" this year with Cleveland P. Grant, leading wild life photographer of America, presenting our annual evening of festivity. We cordially invite Kiwanis Club members to join us for another delightful affair. As usual—it's stag. Time: 8:00 o'clock; Date: February 14, 1944; Place: Lakewood Community Center Building, (corner St. Charles and Detroit), Lakewood, Ohio. Reservations required—call Club office (Prospect 7730).

President Charley left last Saturday for the U. S. Coast Guard Training Base, Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Maryland, for one week's special training in port security work, by order from the Coast Guard, and will live right in the barracks and participate in all activities as though in full time service.

... We noted some new faces last week—at least they seemed so, after extended absence, for instance: **Sam Aub**, **Frank Niklas**, **George Spohn** and **W. R. Rhoton**. ... **Jim Riley** is 100 per cent so far this year. We are saving a gold attendance star for you, **Jim**. ... **Dave Donley** returned from New York just in time to get into Kiwanis last Thursday. ...

WHAT PRICE PERMANENT PEACE?

Asserting that the price America would need to pay for peace was willingness to permit regulation of imports and exports by some larger world authority and to become a part of a global police force, "Lifeman" **Baldwin H. Ward** provided the Club with a most thought-provoking discussion on world affairs.

"Nationalism, which for the individual means sovereignty," said he, "is the great over-all problem which must be dealt with in coming to a final solution."

He traced efforts of the past in dealing with the question of international adjustments, finally leading us to the events which set the stage for World War II.

Despite the fact that "Mairzy Dotes" may have led some members to think they were in for a joust of joodledosnicka, we are happy to report that Mr. Ward's address made a field day for Club students of matters international.

Chalmer F. Lutz

AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY TENTH

- 12:00—Music—Brin Richards
- 12:05—Lunch served
- 12:10—Open meeting
 - Sing Kiwanis Song
 - Pledge to Flag
 - Invocation—P. J. Hofman
- 12:20—Up to minute news—Patrick Hill
- 12:25—War Bond Sale—Tom Taylor
- 12:30—We need new members—
Ken Davidson
- 12:34—Sunshine Report—Doc Beach
- 12:36—Group Singing led by Ray Wilson
Brin Richards at the piano
- 12:46—Miscellaneous announcements
- 12:51—Introduction Head Table
- 12:52—Introduction Speaker—
Program Chairman Kimmel
- 12:53—Speaker—Clyde F. Varner
- 1:28—Report War Bond Sale
- 1:30—Adjournment by singing
National Anthem

W. E. (Ed) Miller has recovered from a two-week illness with tonsillitis and is now active on his new assignment as Advertising Manager for *The Cleveland Kiwanian*. ... **John Murphy** lacking a fork ate his pie with a teaspoon. ... **Bill Williams'** fine resonant voice for the invocation. ... Our attendance is up 8 percent over January a year ago. Keep up your attendance. ... **John Neola** handed out some classy prizes with his usual zip and dash. ... **Roy Packard** introduces new announcer Patrick Hill to President Charley. ... A shocked murmur through the audience at announcement of Raymond Clapper's death. ... **George Buehler** smiling with satisfied air at fine beef lunch. ... **Elmer Wischmeier** avoiding the stairs and relying on the elevator. Admits he is too old to climb stairs. ... **Mac McClure** busy selling advertising for *The Kiwanian*. ... **John Edwards**, a guest of the speaker, won five dollars worth of war stamps in the raffle. ... **Baldwin H. Ward**, our speaker, also won a dollar in stamps. ... **Fred Gaertner** won the twenty-five dollar bond. ... "**Uncle Gus**" Banko buys President Charley Stewart a double bourbon for making a gloomy prediction which didn't come to pass.

If perchance you happen to be out Lake Shore way in the neighborhood of East 212th Street early of a morning (and we mean 6:30 A. M.) and happen to see a figure striding along as though he were delivering a message to Garcia, nostrils aflaming, chest heaving, and arms flying akimbo, you'll know it's our good member **Ed Stull**, of the Alemite Corporation, who is on a determined reducing campaign. . . our advice to Ed is, "Why not try **Barney Kofron**? It's easier."

Lincoln Visiting the Wounded

By Pruett Carter



“We shall never be niggard of gratitude and benefaction to the soldiers who have endured toil, privations and wounds, that the nation may live.”

August 10, 1863

A. Lincoln

From a collection of the Lincoln National Life Foundation by courtesy of Seth A. Bardwell & Associates, 1010 Union Commerce Bldg.

Artists

Carter, Pruett

Magazine Illustrator Kills Wife, Son, Self

NORTH HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP) —The bodies of magazine illustrator Pruett Carter, his wife Theresa, and their son, Deal, were discovered Thursday in their \$50,000 home in Studio City. Police investigators said Carter, 64, had shot his wife and son, then committed suicide. She was 54 and Deal 35.

A .45 frontier model, single action revolver was found by the body of Carter, who had been an illustrator for several nationally known magazines. No notes were found.

Carter, Pruett
(artist)

Drawer 10a

Artist - C

